

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before line 1, in the title, please amend the title as follows:

~~FLANGE MEMBER COMPRISING A FIRST FLANGED END DESIGNATED WITH A, IN
A RADIAL DIRECTION, CONCAVE ENDSURFACE AND A FLANGE JOINT
COMPRISING FLANGE MEMBER~~ A FLANGED MEMBER AND A JOINT COMPRISING
FLANGED MEMBERS

Page 1, before line 3, please insert the following title:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --

Page 1, beginning at line 2, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The present invention relates to a flanged member intended to be included as a component in a pressure equipment device, as well as a joint comprising two joint halves in the form of two flanged members and included in a pressure equipment device, ~~as is described in the preamble of claim 1 and claim 11, respectively.~~

Page 1, beginning at line 27, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Flanged joints may generally be provided with sealing members or lack sealing members. Sealing members that transfer forces from a flange to another flange are usually denominated gaskets. Sealing members that do not transfer any significant forces from a flange to another and which enable metal-to-metal contact between the flanges are usually denominated seals. The present invention relates in particular to flanged joints without a gasket and which enable metal-to-metal contact, with or without a seal.

Page 3, beginning at line 17, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The deformation that arises in the end surfaces, for various reasons, some of which have been mentioned above, most often means that they do not preserve their flatness, but even ~~becomes~~ become slightly convex, i.e. bulge outwards. In the simplest case, they become slightly

convex already in connection with the bolts being tightened and then foremost around the boltholes, when it is a bolted joint. This results in the innermost contact point between the end surfaces being displaced somewhat outwards in the radial direction, so that no sealing abutment is obtained between the end surfaces farthest in towards the opening of the flanged member. It is the understanding about this problem that is the basis of the present invention.

Page 3, beginning at line 29, please amend the paragraph as follows:

An additional reason for insufficient leak tightness, above all after a period of time, is that sealing members, in particular gaskets, age and ~~lose~~ lose their function.

Page 4, before line 3, please insert the following title:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

Page 4, beginning at line 3, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Thus, the object of the present invention is to provide a solution to the mentioned problems. ~~This is attained by a flanged member as is defined in the characterizing part of claim 1, as well as by a joint as is defined in the characterizing part of claim 11.~~

Page 4, beginning at line 4, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Thus, by the present invention, is proposed a flanged member that is intended to be included as a component in a flanged joint, for installation in a pressure equipment device and having a first flanged end with a first end surface intended to be assembled together with a second end surface of a flanged end on another, second flanged member constituting a second component in said flanged joint, ~~which is characterized in that said.~~ The first end surface is slightly concave in the radial direction over at least a part of the extension thereof in the radial direction. With the expression "concave" is meant that, at a cross-section through the flanged end, the end surface is limited by a curve being a concave function. The end surface is in other words slightly curved so that it curves or bulges inwards.

Page 6, beginning at line 19, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The joint that is proposed according to the present invention comprises two joint halves in the form of two flanged members included in a pressure equipment device, which members have at least one flanged end each having an end surface, and which members are put together via their end surfaces of said flanges, which surfaces are facing each other, characterized in that at least one of said flanged members, and preferably both, is designed according to ~~any one of claims 1-10~~ the present invention.

Page 6, beginning at line 32, please delete the paragraph in its entirety:

~~Additional advantages and features will be apparent from the remaining dependent claims.~~

Page 7, before line 1, please insert the following title:

– BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS –

Page 7, before line 8, please insert the following title:

– DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --

Page 7, beginning at line 7, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The joint shown in figure 1 comprises two flanged members 1, 2, each having a first end 3, 4 provided with a collar or flange 5, 6, as well as a second non-flanged end 7, 8. The flanged end 3, 4 of the respective flanged members has an end surface 10, 11 that in this case also is a contact surface, i.e. a surface intended to abut against a corresponding surface of the opposite flanged member, after assembly. The flanges 5, 6 extend preferably 360° and are provided with through borings 13, 14. At joining, the flanges are bolted together to a joint by means of bolts that are inserted through said borings. Usually, there are a number of borings arranged evenly distributed around the flange. All through the flanged members, a tubular duct 15, 16 ~~extend~~ extends. Here, the transition area 17, 18 between the flange and the non-flanged end ~~consist~~ consists of an elliptically shaped area. The illustrated joint is a non-gasketed and seal-free joint.